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NEW YORK • Tuesday, July 17, 2012

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'IDOL': WERE LOPEZ AND TYLER FIRED? {page 10}

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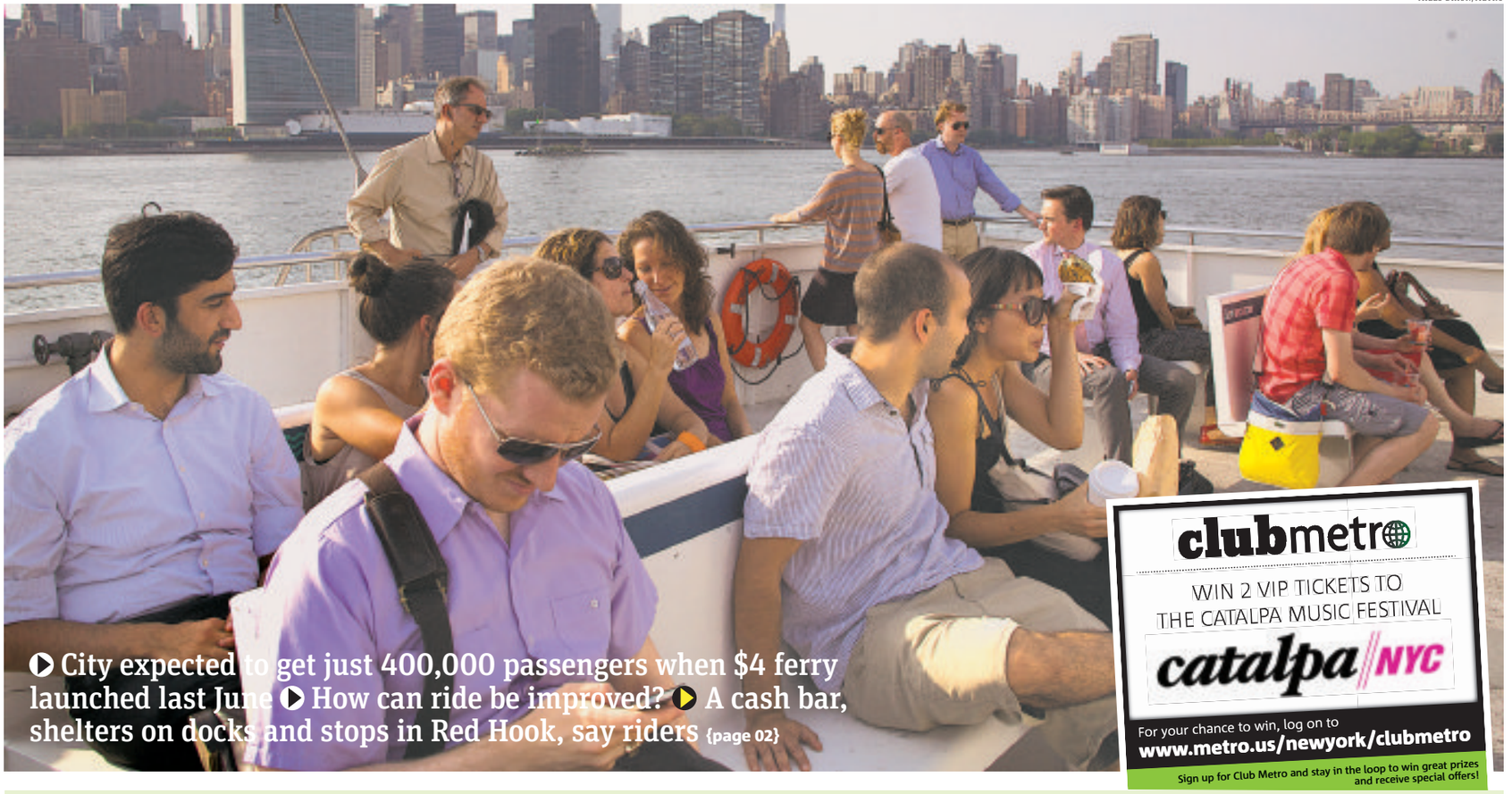
NEW YORK
Tuesday, July 17, 2012

You're on a boat: The East River Ferry reaches one million riders

MILES DIXON/METRO



City expected to get just 400,000 passengers when $4 ferry launched last June How can ride be improved? A cash bar, shelters on docks and stops in Red Hook, say riders {page 02}

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East River Ferry sailing far past expectations

New Yorkers love ferry twice as much as city predicted • More than a million just over a year after launching • Tell city what they should add

PHOTOS: MILES DIXON/METRO

Make no mistake about it: The East River Ferry is one popular ride.

Just a year after opening, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced yesterday that the East River Ferry has carried one million passengers since launching last June.

This doubles the city's original projection, which expected the ferry would serve about 400,000 annual riders.

In the coming weeks, the city will launch a survey to ask passengers what they would like to see on the ferry and how to improve service, promising to "delve deep into the experience of existing riders."

Jennifer Friedberg, at the New York City Economic Development Corporation, told Metro they are still finalizing the survey questions. "We look forward to the future," she said.

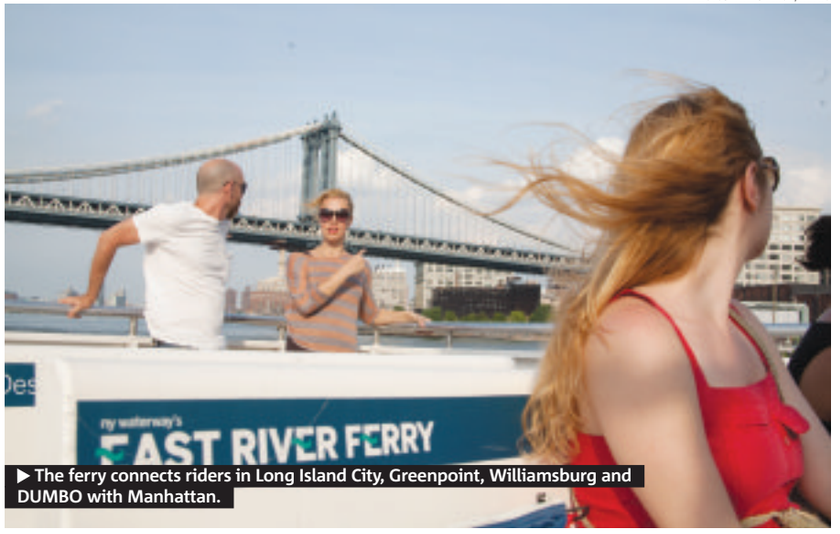
Bloomberg rode the ferry from Williamsburg to Manhattan yesterday during an early-morning commute.

"Ferry service is only going to get better for the next million passengers, whether they are headed to work or going to visit our parks or cultural institutions," Bloomberg said.

Future improvements could include more stops, said Councilman Jimmy Vacca, who chairs the Transportation Committee.

"Every milestone in the East River Ferry pilot brings hope that someday we will bring ferry service to all five boroughs," Vacca said.

The ferry is part of a three-year pilot program to provide year-round ferry service between stops in Lower Manhattan and East 34th Street, along with Long Island City, Greenpoint, Williamsburg and DUMBO.



▶ The ferry connects riders in Long Island City, Greenpoint, Williamsburg and DUMBO with Manhattan.

Quoted

"Reaching the one-million riders mark in just over a year is an amazing accomplishment."
STEVE LEVIN, COUNCILMAN

Hoping to lure more riders

The East River Ferry, part of NY Waterway boats, has a bit of work to do if it wants to dwarf the other ferries' passenger loads — the company makes about 8 million passenger trips total each year.

One way the city hopes to reach more passengers is by reaching out to people who live within walking distance of the Queens and Brooklyn ferry stops, to find out why they are not riding and get them on board.

Bloomberg said using the ferry as a preferred way to get between boroughs "knits together rapidly growing neighborhoods in new ways."

Tickets for the ferry are $4 for one way, $12 for a day pass and $140 for a monthly pass.

ALISON BOWEN
alison.bowen@metro.us

Suggestion box

What do you think the city can do to make the ferry ride even better?

- "They could improve it by serving beer!"
  Tomek, 23, Williamsburg
- "I wish I could bring my dog on the ferry, because he's too big for a crate."
  John, 28, Greenpoint, winner of four free ferry rides a day from the city
- "I'd like to be able to bring my pole and go fishing off the ferry."
  Greg, 55, Greenpoint
- "If the boat went down a little farther, like to Red Hook maybe."
  Anthony, 23, Sheepshead Bay
- "I wish it ran at least one weekday to Governors Island."
  Miranda Roth, 26, Williamsburg
- "I want fruit beverages!"
  Tanya, 50, Manhattan
- "Shelters on the docks would be nice ... The sun is so hot when you're waiting for the ferry."
  Larry, 60, Greenpoint

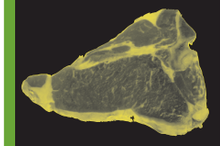
— As told to Miles Dixon, Metro New York

In the news

J.Crew may be coming to Williamsburg

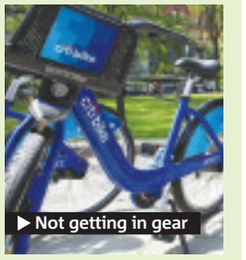
The clothier usually associated with preppies is considering opening up shop in hipster Williamsburg, according to a report yesterday in The Real Deal. J.Crew is considering leasing 35,000 square feet of retail space at 247 Bedford Avenue, a building that sits between North 3rd and North 4th streets. That building currently houses The Bagel Store and a health food shop.
METRO/CB

In the news



Luger is best
Peter Luger Steak House in Williamsburg was named as the best steakhouse in the nation yesterday by USA Today.

The newspaper raved about the steakhouse's juicy pieces of perfectly seasoned and marinated beef — a.k.a. the two-and-a-half pound porterhouse steak.
METRO/AB


▶ Not getting in gear

Bike share slowing its July rollout

NEW YORK. Don't expect to jump on a blue bike from the CitiBike program just yet.

The bike share expected to arrive on city streets this month has been pushed back, officials said yesterday. The Department of Transportation confirmed that the rollout will not be in July. CitiBike tweeted that New Yorkers should look for the bike share in August, Streetsblog noted. "We're working on the launch plan and will update the public as soon as we finalize all the details," DOT spokesman Seth Solomonow said in a statement to Metro. METRO/AB

Man loses finger at JFK

JFK. An airport employee lost his finger after it was trapped in a moving baggage belt at John F. Kennedy Airport yesterday.

A Port Authority spokesman confirmed that Berto Duran, 56, lost his finger when he tripped onto the machine. He was getting ready to repair the luggage machine. METRO/AB

Rape cop sentenced

NEW YORK. A former NYPD officer got a ten-year sentence that will join his previous 75-years-to-life sentence after he admitted to raping a teacher on her way to work in Inwood in August.

A jury convicted Michael Pena of sexual assault, but after they could not agree on a rape verdict, he pleaded guilty. He will appeal. METRO/AB

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Last G stops made permanent

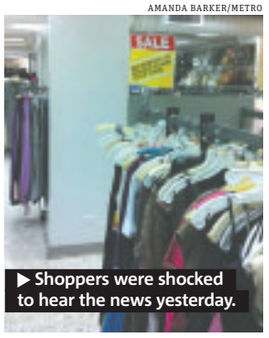
Great news for G-train riders: The MTA is expected to spend millions of dollars revamping transit services across the five boroughs, including a permanent expansion of the G train to Church Avenue.

Two MTA board members confirmed yesterday that the MTA decided to make permanent the G train expansion into South Brooklyn.

Three years ago, the MTA added five temporary stops to the G train — Fourth Avenue-Ninth Street, Seventh Avenue, 15th Street-Prospect Park, Fort Hamilton Parkway, and Church Avenue. With the work due to be finished by the end of this year or next, community members and public officials have been pressuring the MTA to make the stops permanent.

While MTA officials would neither confirm nor deny that any of these changes would take place, NYC Transit Ridership Council chair and MTA board member Andrew Albert was confident the extended G is here to stay. **METRO/DB**

AMANDA BARKER/METRO



▶ Shoppers were shocked to hear the news yesterday.

Daffy's to close up all shops

One of New York's most popular discount designer stores, Daffy's, will be closing all 19 locations, it was revealed yesterday afternoon.

Eleven of those stores are in the five boroughs.

Shoppers browsing the Daffy's on Broadway in Lower Manhattan were shocked to hear the news yesterday.

"I was so surprised when I walked in and the employees told me they were closing," said frequent shopper Maria Orosz, 64. "This store is so close to my house and is much cheaper than Macy's. I just can't believe it."

Another customer, who wished to not be named, was just as surprised as Orosz.

"I had no idea," she said. "This is a horrible disaster."

DNAinfo.com first reported the family-run clothing empire is shuttering. According to the site, a weak economy and poor consumer spending are to blame.

The chain is unsure of an exact closure date but will continue paying its estimated 1,300 employees for at least 60 days, according to the report. Daffy's press representatives didn't immediately respond to confirm.

Currently, Daffy's has locations in Philadelphia, northern New Jersey and all across Manhattan. Its newest store opened in Times Square last November.

AMANDA BARKER and **DANIELA BERNAL**

FLICKR USER BOB H. BROWN

▶ After 51 years in business, Daffy's will close its doors.

Discount store competition

Speculation that the 51-year-old chain was struggling to survive, particularly amongst competitors like TJ Maxx and Century 21, began earlier this year when CEO Caryn Lerner left after only one year on the job.

One of the first discount stores of its kind, Daffy's roots can be traced back to Irving Schulman, a quirky businessman who started the retail store as "Daffy Dan's Bargain Town" in Elizabeth, N.J., in 1961.

Schulman, who passed away last year, was known for his wacky marketing stunts, including putting a mannequin on the roof so that passers-by would run in to warn of suicide jumpers — and then hopefully stay for the discounted apparel.

A retail consultant told The New York Times that the store had been seen as the "coming-of-age of the off-price apparel industry." **METRO/AB**

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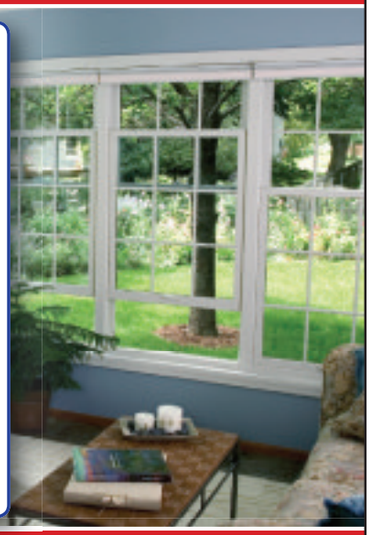

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$5.00	1795 Small Eagle	Up To	$52.000
$5.00	1838D	Up To	$10,500
$5.00	1842C Small Date, 1861D, 1864S	Up To	$6,500
$5.00	1909O, 1929	Up To	$6,500
$10.00	1793 13 Leaves Below Eagle, 1796 9 Leaves Below Eagle	Up To	$20,500
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$20.00	1856O, 1 854O, 1860O, 1861S, 1870CC, 1886, 1891	Up To	$10,500

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I have been here 2 times and both times the people that work here were very friendly. I would definitely recommend this to my friends!
- J. Grace

It was really fast!
- A. Davis

I heard about this store from the radio and as soon as I got the chance I came to sell my unused jewelry. It was a great & friendly service and I will be back!
- J. Simek

My service was exceptional!
- C. Sweeney

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Why We Can Usually Pay More Than Other Dealers

Most jewelers and dealers specialize in few items and focus on newer looking items to resell. Because they are unfamiliar with many other items including vintage jewelry, old watches, coins, flatware, etc. they tend to offer very low prices because these items are not readily saleable for them. Our company has many specialized buyers for the various classifications of items that we purchase, therefore we can usually pay more.

A Note Regarding the Up To Prices listed in this Ad

The condition and rarity of an item determines its price. If an item is in excellent condition and very rare it might be worth the up to price, or even more. However, if an item is in poor condition, the value will be lower. For example, a 1927 S Quarter could be worth $7,000 in new condition or less than $20 in poor condition. The up to price reflects items of exceptional quality and rarity. Although it is unlikely you will have these items due to their extreme rarity, feel free to bring whatever items you may have and we will evaluate them free of charge.

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Fulton Ferry Suite-3rd FL

Try to keep up with Molly Huddle

For the gold

CASSANDRA GARRISON
CASSANDRA.GARRISON@METRO.US

London, here we come! As part of Metro's ongoing coverage leading up to the 2012 Olympic Games in London later this month, we're introducing readers to the athletes who will be representing the United States. Today, Metro reporter Cassandra Garrison interviews long-distance runner Molly Huddle: Don't blink, or you might miss her.

Runner Molly Huddle, originally from Elmira, N.Y., holds a U.S. record in the 5,000 meters (3.1 miles) at 14:44.76, and has carefully crafted her spot on Team USA one pace at a time.

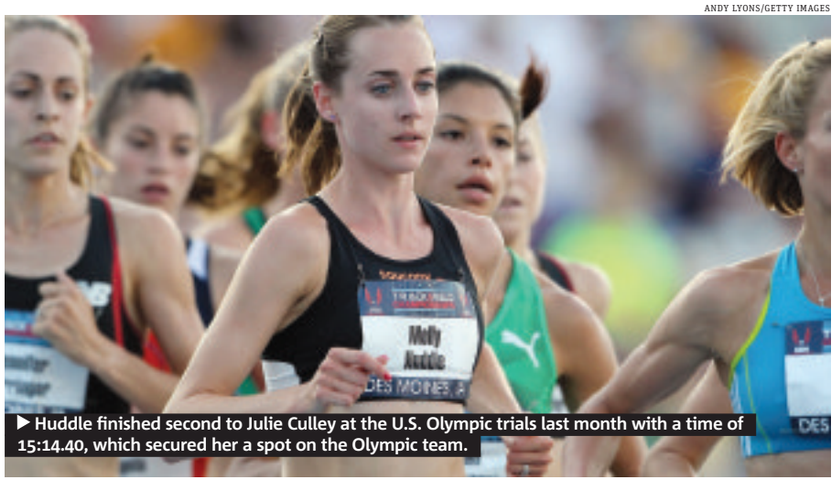
As a student at Notre Dame, she tied the late Ryan Shay's school record of nine career All-America honors. Though London will be her first Olympic experience, Huddle, who lives and trains in Providence, R.I., has routinely competed at the international level for the U.S. cross-country team.

Now, with her sights set on London, Huddle is preparing for the biggest race of her career. Metro caught up with Huddle in the final stretch before her Olympic debut.

What was it like to learn that you qualified for the Olympic team?
Qualifying for the Olympic team was a dream come true. It's one of the major goals of any athlete in track and field, where the Olympics are a time to shine for the sport.

Who do you think your biggest competition will be at the Olympics?
The women who made the Kenyan and Ethiopian teams are running extremely fast right now, and they have been finishing in the medal positions for years. I'm sure a few more women will come out of the woodwork, as usually it happens during the Olympic year when everyone lays it all on the line.

ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Huddle finished second to Julie Culley at the U.S. Olympic trials last month with a time of 15:14.40, which secured her a spot on the Olympic team.

Do you have any guilty pleasure foods you like to indulge in when you're not in the midst of heavy training?
I try to eat pretty healthy when in season, but as a distance runner there is no real out-of-season. I definitely have a favorite junk food. Currently, it's doughnuts, which is hard to avoid with all the Dunkin' Donuts in New England!

*– **Cassandra Garrison** is covering the 2012 Olympic Games live from London. Follow her coverage at **@CassieAtMetro** and at **www.metro.us.***

Q&A

Who is your biggest sports role model and why?
It's hard to narrow it down to one, as I've always admired the way the top American women distance runners like Shalane Flanagan and Deena Kastor race so consistently well and seem to compete with the best in the world without fear. My training partner, Kim Smith of New Zealand, is a front runner as well. On the world level, it's hard not to be dazzled by someone like Tirunesh Diababa, who has been so dominant.

Your husband Kurt Benninger is a Canadian middle-distance runner, too. Do you two often train together?
It's great to be married to another runner, as we have a similar training schedule and can hang out a lot during the day. He is obviously very understanding about what it takes to train and race. We don't really run together much, as he is much faster than I am and we never really overlap in training.

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NYC real estate prices continue their steady rise

Report says citywide property values are slowly but steadily increasing ◗ City bucking a dismal national trend ◗ But not every borough has rosy real estate stats

While real estate prices remain stunted across the nation, property values are slowly but steadily climbing in New York City, according to a new report.

A survey released by the Real Estate Board of New York on Wednesday said citywide home values in the second quarter of this year increased 6 percent compared to 2011. Home sales are "stable and steady," according to REBNY.

And in some neighborhoods, property value is spiking.

According to REBNY, the average sales price of a condo in the Gramercy and Kips Bay area increased 20 percent compared to last year. The number of sales in that area shot up 41 percent.

Similarly, on the Upper West Side, condo sales were 18 percent higher than in 2011, and the average condo price increased 16 percent, according to the report.

Manhattan has always been a draw to buyers, helping the New York real estate market recover faster than elsewhere in the U.S. after the 2008 downturn.

"[Manhattan] typically bounces back faster than other markets," said Citi Habitats president Gary Malin.

Malin suggested the Upper East Side — east of Third Avenue — or the Financial District, where many brand-new condos still have openings. Elsewhere in Manhattan, the neighborhoods with the most activity during the second quarter of 2012 were the Upper West Side and the Gramercy and Kips Bay area.

In Brooklyn, the most sales were in Williamsburg, Bedford Stuyvesant and Park Slope. In Queens, Flushing was the most popular neighborhood for buyers.

The Bronx is the only borough where prices didn't increase, according to REBNY.

There, the average price of a home went down 6 percent, to $322,000.

This summer is the ideal time for New York home shoppers, some brokers said.

"It certainly is a good time to buy," said Michael Slattery, REBNY's senior vice president of research.

"I think there's more confidence that we are on solid footing in the housing market," he added. "I think that has kind of given people the willingness to jump in and the willingness to pay slightly higher prices."

FLICKR USER RUTLO

▶ Bed-Stuy has seen a spike in residential purchases this year.

By the numbers

6 Citywide, home values increased 6 percent compared to the same time last year, according to REBNY's market report.

$789K The average sales price of a NYC home was $789,000 in the second quarter of 2012, up 6 percent from the same time last year, according to REBNY.

2 The average price of a home in both Manhattan and Brooklyn was 2 percent higher than the same time last year.

3 The average price of a home in Queens was 3 percent higher than 2011.

ALISON BOWEN
alison.bowen@metro.us

Interest rates ideal

Citi Habitats president Gary Malin added that interest rates are low, also an attractive bonus for buyers.

"You're going to get one of the lowest rates, if not the lowest rate ever," he said. "When money is as cheap as it is to borrow, that's always a good opportunity to buy."

Still, Malin cautioned, real estate has proven unpredictable.

"None of us has a crystal ball," he said. "Anything could happen." METRO/AB

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News in brief

US navy kills one in incident off Dubai

DUBAI. A U.S. Navy vessel fired on an approaching fishing boat off the United Arab Emirates yesterday, killing an Indian national and seriously injuring three others, the UAE's state news agency (WAM) said.

"The firing has led to the death of one Indian national and serious injury of three Indian nationals," Tarek al-Hedan, an aide to the foreign minister for political affairs told WAM.

A U.S. defense official told Reuters the boat was believed to have sped away after being fired upon by the crew aboard the USNS Rappahannock, according to an initial report.

REUTERS

Romney coffers nowhere near full, donor study shows

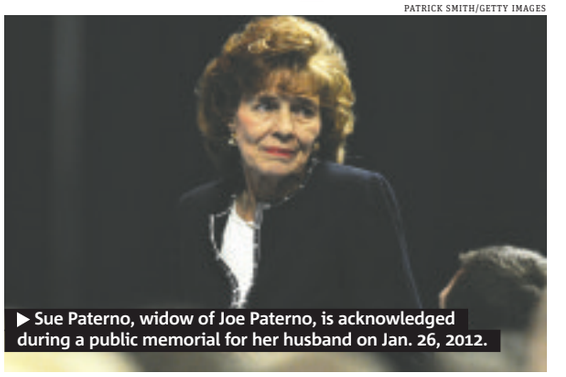
WASHINGTON. Of the big donors helping propel the fundraising of U.S. Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, fewer than 1 percent have hit the limit they can donate to his election bid, suggesting cash is likely to keep pouring into his coffers.

Only 40 donors have given $75,800 — the maximum individuals are allowed to give before the Nov. 6 election — to the joint Victory fund that Romney shares with the Republican National Committees, according to a Reuters analysis of the fund's first campaign finance filing.

REUTERS

Paterno family starts own Penn State probe

PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Sue Paterno, widow of Joe Paterno, is acknowledged during a public memorial for her husband on Jan. 26, 2012.

The family of Joe Paterno, angered by a report critical of the late Penn State head coach, said yesterday it will conduct its own probe of the child sex abuse scandal surrounding Paterno's assistant that has stained the football legend's legacy.

Family members said they "are dismayed by, and vehemently disagree with" findings in the report by former FBI Director Louis Freeh that accused Paterno and other Pennsylvania State University officials of failing to take steps for 14 years to protect the children victimized by assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky.

Freeh, in the report commissioned by the Penn State board of trustees, blamed them for conducting a cover-up to avoid consequences of bad publicity that could upset donors and damage the Penn State brand.

The Paterno family said it has asked its attorneys and experts to conduct a comprehensive review of Freeh's report and comments, and "we have also asked them to go beyond the report and identify additional information that should be analyzed."

They said they asked Freeh to preserve all his records, notes and other materials "as we expect they will be the subject of great interest in the future."

"To those who are convinced that the Freeh report is the last word on this matter, that is absolutely not the case," the family said. "It is highly likely that additional critical information will emerge." **REUTERS**

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Nokia shares nosedive after 'iPhone killer' price cut in half

SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ In the three months to June, all three major credit ratings agencies cut Nokia bonds to "junk."

Shares in Nokia fell more than 3 percent yesterday after the company slashed the price of its flagship smartphone, with investors seeing it as a sign of desperation in its battle against Apple and Samsung.

Analysts also cited caution ahead of Thursday's second-quarter report and short-selling of the stock reached record highs. The results are expected to show a widening loss for Nokia.

Once the world's dominant mobile phone provider, Nokia was late to embrace smartphones, and has lost out to Apple and Samsung in the most profitable part of the market.

Nokia halved the price of the Lumia 900 phone in the United States over the weekend to try and lure customers away from its rivals.

"They are stuck between a rock and a hard place; to drive sales of their devices, they are going to have to spend money on marketing and promotions. But at the same time the stock market is demanding they do anything other than spend money," said Ovum analyst Nick Dillon.

Analysts expect Samsung to sell 50 million smartphones in the second quarter, a Reuters poll showed yesterday, compared with Apple selling around 30 million iPhones and Nokia around 10 million smartphones.

The proportion of Nokia shares out on loan has risen to 13.2 percent in the last month, Markit data showed, as speculative investors took bearish positions ahead of the report.

Nokia is expected to report a net loss roughly doubling to 706 million euros ($864.4 million) and burn through more than a billion of cash in just three months, according to a poll of 38 analysts.

REUTERS

Three men claim earlier abuse by Sandusky

PHILADELPHIA. Three men have come forward to say they were sexually abused as early as the 1970s or 1980s by former Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky, years before the assaults that he was convicted of committing, the Harrisburg Patriot-News reported yesterday.

The men are the first alleged victims with complaints dating back to the 1970s against Sandusky, who was convicted in June of sexually abusing 10 boys over a 15-year period beginning in 1994, the newspaper said.

REUTERS

Trayvon Martin's killer accused of molestation by female relative

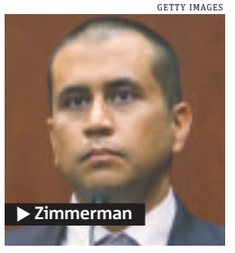
ORLANDO, FLA. A female relative accused George Zimmerman of sexually molesting her from age 6 to 16, according to new documents made public yesterday by prosecutors.

The name and exact relationship to Zimmerman was deleted from an audio tape version of her witness statement that was released to the media. Identified only as 'Witness #9' she would be aged about 27 now.

Judge Kenneth R. Lester ordered the document released under Florida's public records law.

REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Zimmerman

myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

Who dumped who on 'Idol'?

▶ Lopez and Tyler are leaving Randy Jackson alone at the judges' table.

When **Jennifer Lopez** and **Steven Tyler** announced they were leaving "American Idol" last week, both stars cited their busy, rewarding lives. How could they continue to judge a reality show when they had babies to take care of and devoted fans to entertain?

But there might be a much easier explanation here: money. According to TheWrap.com, Lopez was actually let go when she asked for a $2 million raise and Fox "surprised her" by declining to make a counteroffer. During an appearance on Monday's "Good Morning America," the singer hinted that it wasn't exactly a tidy break. "I love them, they love me, and it's hard when I feel like I should move on," she said of the split. "I don't know, I don't know if it's even done yet. … I know that I'm moving on."

As for Tyler — who, like Lopez, spent two seasons on the show — the network decided not to renew his contract as it looks to revamp the struggling show's format, a source tells TheWrap.

Sure it's embarrassing — but don't sweat it, guys. Most of us get fired over far less money and have never known the joy of giving **Ryan Seacrest** an exit wedgie.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

@RyanSeacrest
Craving ice cream. Had to stop for a blizzard, butter finger Heath bar flavor.

@_juliannemoore
umm #the knicks the way things are going why not just have ME on the team. Old ladies are great point guards.

@driverminnie
We are writing and performing a play in 24 hrs. We are in hour 18. I feel vaguely nauseous and wish now that I'd gone to university

@AlbertBrooks
Breaking News: Romney promises to release more tax returns as soon as he can get the guy from Luxembourg on the phone.

Moore

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Katie is skipping over the hamsters and going for gold.

Because puppies fix everything

Over the weekend, **Katie Holmes** was spotted doing what every good divorced parent does: Shopping for a puppy.

Holmes and daughter **Suri Cruise** stopped by an upscale Manhattan pet store, according to RadarOnline, and were looking at a French bulldog and a tiny designer Yorkie/Maltese mix dubbed a "Morkie."

They left without a dog, and now North Shore Animal League rescue is encouraging the family to adopt. "Unfortunately, most pet stores are provided their dogs from commercial breeding organizations otherwise known as puppy mills," spokeswoman Devera Lynn tells Radar. "We would love to show Katie the animals we have if she is ready to adopt."

Katie, you of all people must be sick of yappy little overgroomed critters. Give pound pups a chance!

Another Lohan on the way

We always forget this, but the Lohans are humans and can, as such, pull a sneak attack and reproduce.

Lindsay's father, **Michael Lohan**, is expecting a baby with sometimes girlfriend and occasional fiance **Kate Major**, a rep confirmed to TMZ. Conveniently, Major's restraining order against Lohan, who was arrested for suspected domestic violence, was recently lifted.

Talking points

What could go wrong?

Though it's been little more than a month since they announced their engagement, **Miley Cyrus** and **Liam Hemsworth** are reportedly much more interested in planning a family than planning a wedding, according to Us Weekly. "Miley and Liam really want to have a baby quickly," a source says. "They are both mature and ready for this. Miley is 19 going on 40."

▶ Hemsworth and Cyrus

Give us that croissant, Pacey

Joshua Jackson and **Diane Kruger** are settling into life living in Paris, and they couldn't be happier, the "Fringe" star tells People magazine. "The most romantic thing about Paris for me is just walking around and being immersed in the city," Jackson says. "Because Diane has lived there for so long and we have an apartment there, the most romantic part of our day is waking up in our own neighborhood and going down to a cafe and just having breakfast — which is a really quotidian thing to do, but to do it in that city is pretty nice."

Segel's latest role: Dad

Michelle Williams hurried home from her visit to San Diego Comic-Con for some quality time with daughter **Matilda**, 6, and boyfriend **Jason Segel**, according to Us Weekly. The pair were spotted Saturday taking in a matinee of the Broadway show "Jersey Boys" before heading back to Brooklyn for an early dinner and a stroll. Sources say Segel has been bonding with Matilda over the past few months. "He's been doing all sorts of 'dad stuff' with her, like drawing and playing music," a source previously told the magazine about the actor. "I never thought Jason would ever date someone with a kid. But he's taking everything in stride. He's ready to be a grown-up."

Happy Hoff Day!

1 It's true: Telemundo red carpets are way better than all other red carpets.

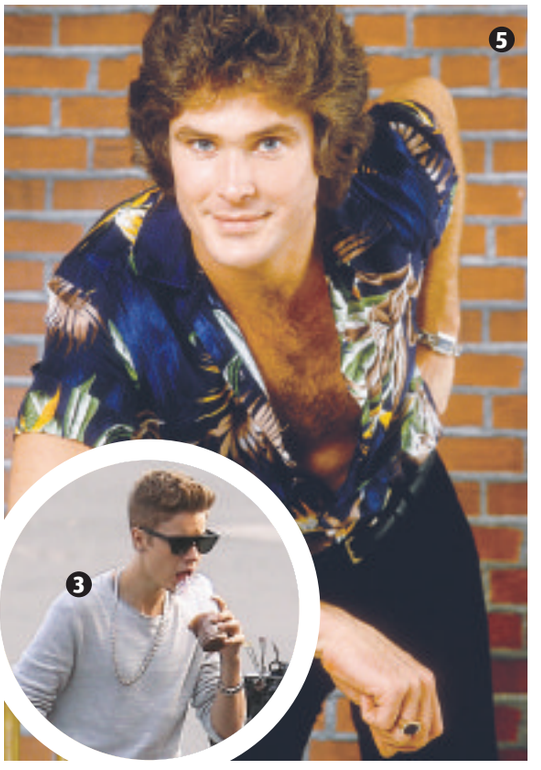
2 Oh hey, gang! **Glen Howerton**, **Rob McElhenney** and **Charlie Day** of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" hit up Comic-Con over the weekend.

3 We can't even pretend to know what look **Justin Bieber** is going for. But his iced mocha whatever was killing it yesterday.

4 **Jeremy Renner** was walking his signature line between suave and scary while promoting "The Bourne Legacy" in Rome yesterday.

5 Happy 60th birthday, **David Hasselhoff**! We got you this sweet promo photo from 1980.

1: TOMMASO BODDI/WIREIMAGE
2: CHELSEA LAUREN/GETTY IMAGES
3: SCOTT BARBOUR/GETTY IMAGES
4: ERNESTO RUSCIO/GETTY IMAGES
5: MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES



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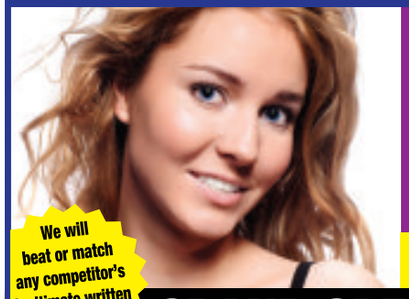

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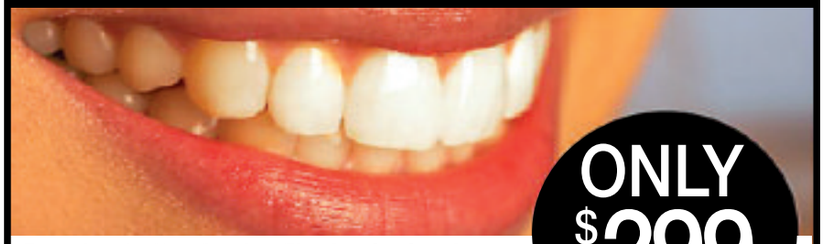

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A PASSION FOR PERFUME

How would you describe the scent of your favorite flower to someone who had never smelled it? Go ahead, try it. You may find yourself borrowing language from outside the realm of scent. Are marigolds "sunny"? Lilacs "cool"? Magnolias "voluptuous"?

The language of perfume is an inexact and highly subjective science. Scent triggers very specific memories — and as many descriptions as there are noses. But Alyssa Harad writes about perfume with flowering, hypnotic prose that doesn't leave you gasping for air.

In her first book, "Coming to My Senses," she describes her sudden intoxication by the perfume world after stumbling across a community of scent-obsessed bloggers. The 36-year-old Harad, beguiled by the descriptions that she reads online, falls under the spell of classic perfumes before even smelling them.

▶ In her new book, Alyssa Harad describes her transformation from a mild-mannered grad student to a woman obsessed — with scent.

ERIN MAYES

Perfume, she learns (and, in turn, convinces her readers), is to the nose what painting is to the eyes or music is to the ear. "It's about our passion for the scent in the world around us," she tells Metro, "This is the art form that humans have created to be able to capture those smells, to be able to extend them, to riff on them, to paint portraits of them."

Can wearing perfume be a psychological leap for women who aren't accustomed to it?
Oh sure. I mean, we're accustomed to thinking about pleasure in general as something that you have to earn or sneak or indulge in or steal. ... I think also, our generation worries — I know I do — about getting too soft. We want to be smart and ambitious and hardworking, and perfume feels like something "the pampered lady" has. It speaks to a desire to hang out in bed all day in your fluffy marabou robe and your mules, which I, personally, think we should all have a little bit of in our lives. I'm all for it. [laughs] I'm not afraid of it anymore.

Is perfume more intellectual than fashion or jewelry?
I think each of these things has their own rich and underappreciated history, and they're all things that get dismissed because they're superfeminine. This is typical gender politics, where the kind of architecture that goes into a couture gown is considered to be frivolous frippery and the kind of architecture that goes into a great, big building is considered to be really important and permanent. It's not an accident that one belongs to this kind of domestic, feminine realm and the other is a big part of the business world, a predominantly male profession.

How can a perfume novice who isn't lucky enough to have a perfume-obsessed friend find a scent that works for them?
Well, of course, now you all have a friend ... in me! [Laughs] You could start by reading the book and exploring the appendix and looking at some of the blogs. But if you're just dying to get out and start sniffing, I would go to someplace like Sephora or Nordstrom, where they are set up to make samples and they're accustomed to letting you take your time.

REBECCA FINKEL
rebecca.finkel@metro.us

If you go

▶ **Coming to My Senses Book Launch Party**
Thursday, 7 p.m.
BookCourt, 163 Court St., Brooklyn
During the reading, guests will sip cocktails created by perfumer Julianne Zaleta of Herbal Alchemy and inspired by perfumer Maria McElroy's Aroma M perfumes — samples of which will be free with the first 20 books sold.

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TV watch list

'MasterChef'

REALITY. Paula Deen guests during a Southern-inspired dish challenge. But whether her health-conscious Jekyll or her "butter is better" Hyde shows up will have to be seen. **9 p.m., Fox**

'American Gypsies'

REALITY. Romani culture in the States is examined via a family of Gypsies who run a psychic shop empire in New York City and struggle to balance the traditions of their culture and a modern lifestyle. **Series premiere, 9 p.m., Nat Geo AMBER RAY**

▶ "American Gypsies"

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNELS

Comic-Con 2012: Hits and misses

Celebrities, filmmakers and roughly 170,000 fans invaded San Diego last week for the annual pop culture Woodstock that is Comic-Con, where Hollywood rolled out teases for the next several years of film and TV properties. Most of the big reveals came in Hall H, the massive auditorium into which fans line up for days. So, was it worth the wait?

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Author Stephenie Meyer, left, and the "Twilight" cast made the trek to Comic-Con to talk about the series's final film.

Biggest hits

▶ **Marvel Entertainment:** Riding into Comic-Con high on the wave of "Avengers" success, the comic book publisher-turned-movie studio announced a slew of new films, including sequels to "Captain America" and "Thor." And then Robert Downey Jr. danced into the hall, blurring the lines between himself and Tony Stark, to unveil footage from next year's "Iron Man 3."

▶ **"Elysium":** "District 9" director Neill Blomkamp unveiled "Elysium," about a future in which the haves live it up on a space station while the have-nots toil on the dilapidated Earth below. Not only did Blomkamp stun the crowd with footage from the film, he also brought along star Jodie Foster, a Comic-Con virgin and closet geek — Foster copped to being a huge "True Blood" fan.

▶ **"Man of Steel":** Zack Snyder gave fans a first look at his Superman reboot, due next year — a movie Warner Bros. hopes will take over for Christopher Nolan's Batman franchise. While the footage was impressive, showing British actor Henry Cavill in action as both Superman and Clark Kent, Snyder has wowed Comic-Con crowds before only to disappoint later, as he did with "Sucker Punch." Still, there's cause for optimism here. As a bonus, the same panel saw the announcement of a new "Godzilla" film from director Gareth Edwards.

Biggest misses

▶ **"The Host":** While kicking off Comic-Con with a panel for the final "Twilight" film, the series's author, Stephenie Meyer, snuck in a look at the film adaptation of her follow-up, "The Host," directed by Andrew Niccol. The footage of the sci-fi story about alien possession left fans scratching their heads — and some walking out before the screening had finished. This one might be a hard sell.

▶ **"Django Unchained":** While it was awfully cool of Quentin Tarantino to bring his revenge Western starring Jamie Foxx and Christoph Waltz to Comic-Con — despite it not necessarily being normal Comic-Con fare — there are a few things he didn't do: He didn't show off much new material, instead opting to show a seven-minute "sizzle reel" that had screened for insiders at Cannes, and he didn't stick around to talk to the press after the Hall H panel. One thing he did do? Put a damper on plans for "Kill Bill: Vol. 3." Not cool, Quentin.

▶ Tarantino

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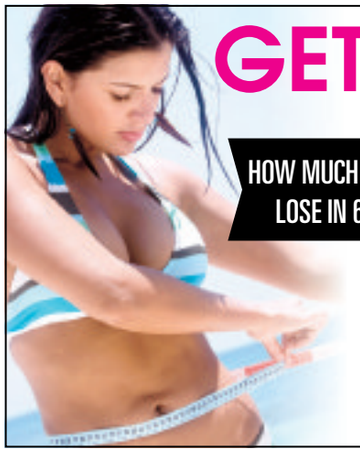

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BANANASTOCK

Back to school

Growing brains and bodies need the right foods to fuel their day.

Time and again, we're told breakfast is the most important meal of the day — but for children, it's even more essential to start the day fueled up. Not only do kids use lots of energy in the classroom and the playground, but they're growing, too. And, the right kind of nutritious breakfast gives a head start on learning, aiding concentration and brainpower.

"After a night of fasting, a nutritious meal supplies the blood stream with brain- and blood sugar-stabilizing elements that boost learning and overall energy," says Lisa C. Cohn, MMSC, MED, RD, of Manhattan's Park Avenue Nutrition. "Breakfast supplies the energy for children to have good attention at school. Brainpower requires good energy from nourishing foods."

This might sound like a tall order for busy parents, but it's just a matter of choosing the right products and ingredients. Start with the shopping cart and swap out convenience foods loaded with sugar, preservatives and white flour. Cohn advises parents to choose fresh, good-quality foods made from whole grains that are free of additives and pesticides. "For children who won't eat breakfast," she says, "try offering fruit, granola cereals, nut butter sandwiches or just favorite leftovers, such as a chicken leg."

"A nutritious breakfast needs to contain protein, healthy fats and complex carbohydrate energy," she adds. "Growing brains benefit from foods high in essential fatty acids that nourish the brain's fatty tissue and the nervous system. Better breakfasts promote better moods, better attention and better overall energy."

LINDA CLARKE
letters@metro.us

Cohn's tips

Brain-boosting breakfast options include:

- **Cottage cheese** with real fruit on top of whole-grain toast, pancakes or waffles
- **Nut butter roll-ups** with sliced apple, pear or fruit spread (but watch the sugar content)
- **Homemade smoothies** with berries, mango or pineapple
- **Eggs:** hard-boiled, poached on toast or scrambled

Add-ins that give a health kick:

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Beyond boring brown bag lunches

MONKEY BUSINESS

▶ Try finger foods like grapes and cut-up veggies in your child's lunch box.

It's not just a school lunch box anymore: It's a potential powerhouse of nutrition. Packing it is one thing, but getting children to eat new, nutritious foods is another. That's why the summer break is the time to start prepping children. Sitting down and eating lunch with them is the best way to have them try new foods, says Nicolette Pace, RD.

"Children are mimics," says Pace, the founder of NutriSource Inc., which offers nutrition-based medical therapy and counseling. "Use the summer as a constructive time to set up good habits for the new school year. Try new ideas, sit down together and eat. If the child sees you enjoying it, they are more likely to eat it."

What never to pack

Pace says these two items should never be in your kid's lunch box:

- **Empty-calorie drinks:** "That means soda, those so-called juices that are just sugary fruit drinks and energy drinks — they are the worst thing to upset brain chemistry."
- **Fatty, salty chips:** "They are heavy-calorie bags of air. Many are coated with a cocktail of chemicals. Choose a plain tortilla chip rather than something like Doritos. French fries are just as bad."

Pace suggests new sandwich recipes with more produce. "Add raw spinach and carrots to chicken salad, or sliced apples or berries to peanut butter and jelly."

Also, switch to whole-grain breads and swap mayonnaise with yogurt to reduce calories and add calcium and probiotics. Add a sweet snack in the form of homemade trail mix.

"A lot of store trail mixes have sugar-coated berries. Choose nuts, seeds and [unsweetened] dried fruit such as blueberries and cranberries. Berries are known to improve brain and motor skills."

If you're met with grumbles, don't quit, says Pace: "Kids need several exposures to accept new foods." **METRO/LC**

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Letters

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Sandusky: Parents should have known

Questions regarding the Sandusky scandal: Why didn't any of these victims tell their parents? What was missing in their relationship? Why didn't the abused go to the police if they didn't want to discuss it with their parents?

ADELAIDE VERPONI, VIA E-MAIL

Wipe the Penn State program off the map

To use sports parlance, I have no skin in the game with respect to the Penn State scandal. I'm neither a football fan, nor an alumnus. I am, however, a father of two children — and as far as I'm concerned, that statue should be demolished (as publically as possible) and the NCAA should shut down the football program entirely. The team and the institution have been poisoned — perhaps permanently — by Sandusky, Paterno and their accomplices. They have turned Penn State into a criminal institution of the worst sort, and that can not be allowed to stand.

JOSEPH CONNELL, BROOKLYN, N.Y.

'Made in China' the least of our worries

Is "Made in China" the only thing that people object to about the Ralph Lauren-designed Olympic uniforms? They look like the rejected bridesmaid outfits from the Neil Patrick Harris wedding! If they wanted something awesome, why didn't they hire Cinna from "The Hunger Games"?

GENE TOWBA, PLAINVIEW, N.Y.

Booing message rather than speaker

If memory serves me correctly, President Obama was speaking to a predominately white audience early in his presidency and when a man yelled "liar," no one called him racist. If people watch the entire Romney speech, they will know that Romney was applauded several times and not booed until he announced his plan to repeal The Affordable Healthcare Act. Romney was booed by the NAACP audience because of his message, not his race.

LARRY D. FOWLER, BRONX, N.Y.

Many have paid for tax cuts for the few

The Bush tax cuts have done nothing for the economy in the last 11 years. What they have done is divide the country, congress and citizenry while raising our debts to insurmountable heights. For the wealthy, it translated into more money for gambling on Wall Street. For the poor, it did nothing. The working and middle-class families saw a small increase in their take-home, but I bet anyone reading this couldn't give you an exact dollar amount. At least, I couldn't. Congress has been shut down, wars have been fought and not paid for and millions of people have lost their jobs all to keep these tax cuts in place. They were temporary for a reason. For a few Americans, this tax cut has been one hell of a ride, but like a good friend once told me, "Sometimes the ride is not worth the fall!"

RICH BRITTLE, VIA E-MAIL

Jason Kidd: With friends like these ...

I think it was very irresponsible of Jason Kidd to drink himself into a stupor and then attempt to drive himself home. Even more irresponsible were the people who helped this clearly intoxicated man out of a night club and escorted him to his car.

JONATHAN PERRY, VIA E-MAIL

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Horoscope

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Be careful about inviting others to drop in anytime unless you really mean it. Someone could take you up on your invitation and interrupt you at a most inappropriate moment.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Recommending to others an idea or suggestion that you've never tested could land you in a whole lot of trouble. It might look good on paper, but fail miserably in practice.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Avoid taking a gamble on something that could affect not only your resources but also those of others. Even if Lady Luck has been hanging out on your doorstep lately, she might be elsewhere today.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** It might be flattering to you when a member of the opposite gender comes on to you — but if it's inappropriate in any way, it will spell big trouble if you respond in kind.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Relying on wit and charm may work up to a point, but if the going gets tough you could quickly lose steam. Make sure to have a solid foundation undergirding your flourishes.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Base your hopes and expectations on solid bedrock and not on loose, shifting sand. Your desires will be dashed if there is nothing substantial holding them in place.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Because your behavior and motives are likely to be closely scrutinized by anybody and everybody, don't do anything foolish that would be detrimental to your image.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** It's an enviable quality, your innate wisdom, but you might reward someone you shouldn't while ignoring the deserving.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You might be offered a proposition that appears nifty on the surface but has hidden strings attached. Don't be reluctant to ask whatever pertinent questions you think necessary.

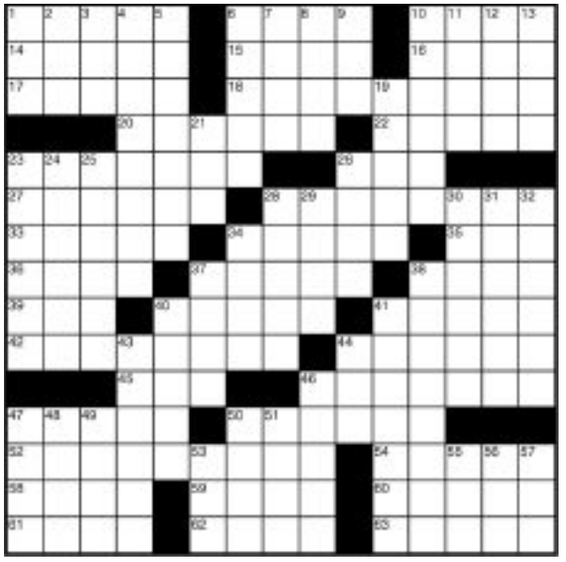
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Do not let a close colleague make a decision about a shared concern without

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Try not to overextend yourself by taking on an assignment of another's in addition your own, no matter how much the other person needs help.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** It would be best not to request a favor from someone you just met. Go to an old friend for whom you've done much in the past — he or she owes you a favor. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 "Nick of Time" singer
6 Salt, to a chemist
10 Army vehicle
14 Love
15 A woodwind
16 — -de-camp
17 Praline ingredient
18 Copper patina
20 Form a thought
22 Because of (2 wds.)
23 People in the hole
26 KGB counterpart
27 Scallions
28 Not domestic
33 Aromas
34 Sunfish
35 "Grand — Opry"
36 Presses for payment
37 Catcalls
38 Popcorn nuisance
39 "Exodus" hero
40 Satyrs
41 Chennai money
42 Submissiveness
44 Mirage site
45 North Carolina — Heels
46 Wide-angle lens
47 Loud kiss
50 Flour or sugar
52 Crunchy morsel (2 wds.)
54 Goodbye, in Paris
58 Long for
59 Intuition
60 Adjusts a piano
61 More than want
62 Parroted
63 — Downs (racetrack)

Down
1 Musical genre
2 Lime cooler
3 Winter Games org.
4 Turncoats
5 Sinews
6 Exploding stars
7 Be an accomplice
8 Earth's center
9 Conducted
10 Wild feline
11 Gael republic
12 Fix typos
13 Tijuana dollar
19 Figure of speech
21 Uh cousins
23 Trinket
24 Motorcycle race
25 Like Steve Austin
26 Form 1040 experts
28 Wry humor
29 New York nine
30 Rug, slangily
31 — Queen, of whodunits
32 Strike out
34 Prizefight
37 "Aquarius" musical
38 Kept under wraps (2 wds.)
40 Peel, as paint
41 Schedule again
43 Had poison ivy
44 Short swim
46 Meant to be
47 Read quickly
48 Medieval weapon
49 Late tennis great
50 Fabric sample
51 Skimpy top
53 Harpers Ferry st.
55 Connections
56 Want-ad abbr.
57 Sch. in Hattiesburg



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				5	1		6	
5	1	6					7	3
		9	2					

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

9			4				5	
				1		9		2
		5	3	7				
7		9				2		
6	2	3				8	1	5
		1				3		7
				8	5	6		
3		6		4				
	9				7			4

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to Monday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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destinations

Bush tucker delights

There's more to Australian food than barbecues on the beach Native Australian delicacies include kangaroo steaks, wattleseed, lemon myrtle and warrigal greens Where to shop

Eating local takes on new meaning when you're dining in Sydney. An increasing number of chefs are offering more native Australian food on their menus.

Known as 'bush tucker,' these ingredients go beyond a kangaroo steak. But if 'roo steak is what you're looking for, try **Kingsley's** steakhouse for one of the best. The meat is prized for its gamey flavor and low fat content **(www.kingsleysaussteak.com.au)**.

Found wild in bushland, the leaves of the lemon myrtle are used to flavor everything from tea to aioli; wattleseed makes a rich, nutty addition to a dessert and lemon aspen, a tiny, piquant fruit, can be used sparingly in place of lemon. Warrigal greens can be served instead of English spinach. While these aren't found on every restaurant menu, they're showing up more frequently.

▶ Sydney rock oysters are a local delicacy you can't afford to miss.

Local specialties from the sea include Sydney Rock Oysters, and the more obscure but equally delicious Angasi, or flat, oysters. For sampling oyster varieties, you can't beat the Sydney Fish Markets in Pyrmont, where they're shucked before your eyes.

If the truly authentic Aussie experience is what you're after, head out of town. Ninety minutes' drive west of Sydney on the other side of the picturesque Blue Mountains, the town of Lithgow is home to the **Secret Creek Cafe**. There you can admire the native wildlife as it wanders past the window. But at Secret Creek Cafe you can eat it, too. Perhaps Australia is the only country on Earth where you can eat the two animals featured on its coat of arms **(www.secretcreekcafe.com)**.

KIRSTY DE GARIS
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Traveler tips

- **EAT:** The Crave Sydney International Food Festival runs across the city during the month of October. During the festival, you can enjoy night noodle markets in Hyde Park, breakfast on Bondi beach with a cast of thousands or sample some of the city's finest restaurants late at night for dessert and sweet wine. **www.cravesydney.com**
- **SHOP:** Gourmands across Sydney shop for oils, spices, teas, chocolate, biscuits and more at Simon Johnson at various locations across the city. Exquisite produce makes for high-end prices, but the retail experience is sublime. Don't miss the chilled cheese room, where you can taste before you buy. **www.simonjohnson.com**
- **STAY:** Located in the heart of bustling Darlinghurst, L'otel is an urban treasure. With just 16 rooms it's a boutique hotel, and at street level you can enjoy the laid-back bohemian atmosphere of the cafe, restaurant and bar. It's also minutes on foot from both Kings Cross and Oxford Street. **www.lotel.com.au**

DANNY HUYNH PHOTOGRAPHY

▶ Sydney Food Festival

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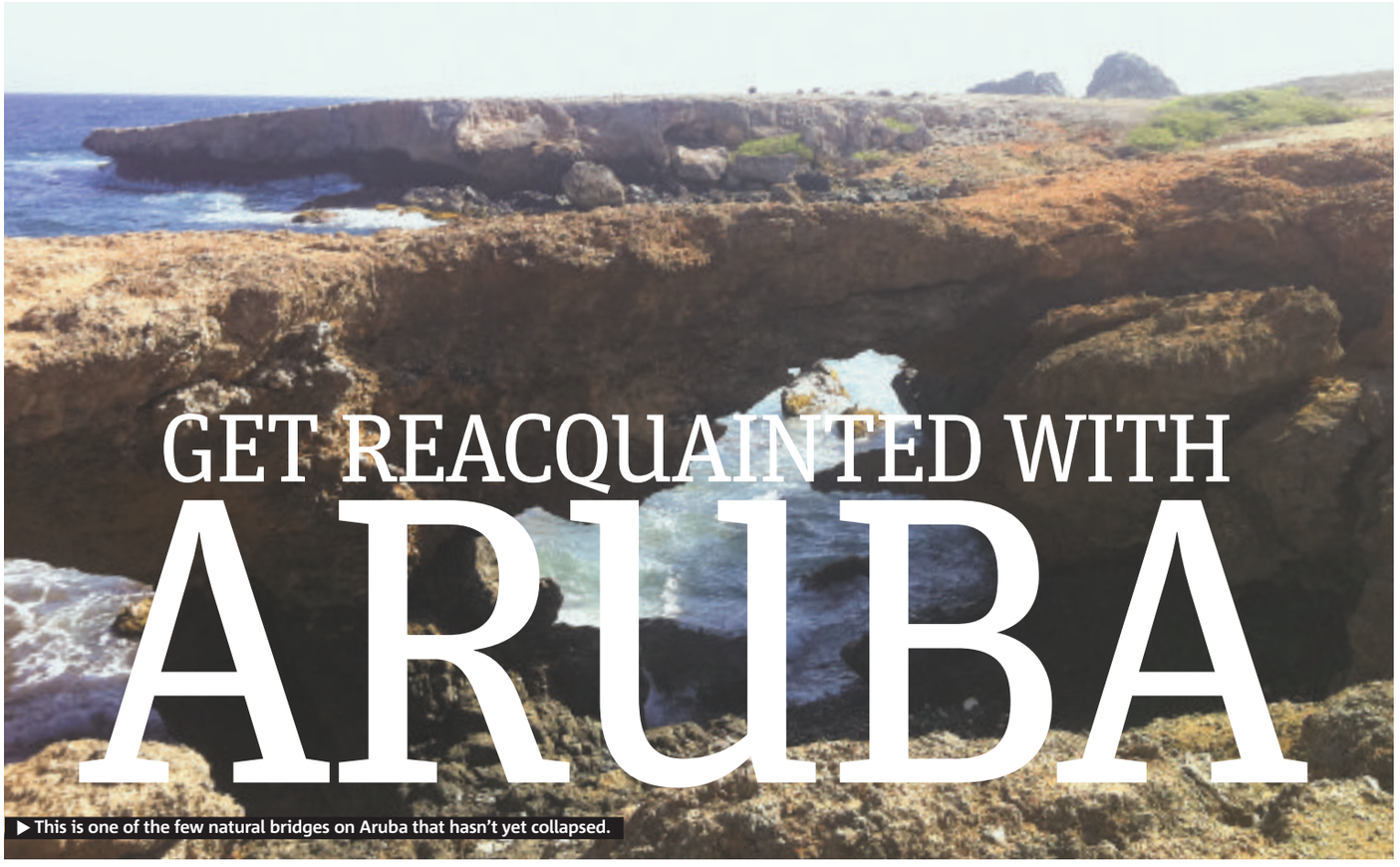

▶ This is one of the few natural bridges on Aruba that hasn't yet collapsed.

As the sunset burns over the horizon of Aruba's 20-mile white sand coast, the story that shocked the world in 2005 seems to be the furthest thing from mind.

"What incident?" a local sarcastically asks when pressed about whether the "incident" still puts a dent in Aruba's tourism industry.

That "incident," of course, is the disappearance of Alabama teen Natalee Halloway and the headline-grabbing investigation that ensued. As the media circus was fueled by talk that Aruban officials dragged their feet when she first went missing, the island's main source of income — tourism — devastatingly plummeted.

But on the beaches of this tropical paradise, where cool trade winds make for the perfect year-round climate, Aruba has seemed to rebound as it once again emerges as an ideal vacation hot spot in 2012.

Travelers who have stuck with Aruba, or given the destination a second chance, will know that crime is typically minimal and security guards patrol the beaches at night, a stark contrast from the portrait painted of the island community in 2005.

It's easy to see that there is something for everyone within Aruba's unique dichotomy — a local Arawak culture with Dutch infusion makes for unmatched hospitality, savory dining and energetic nightlife. From snorkel cruises to couples massages, Aruba is ideal for adventurists and relaxation-seekers alike.

Stay

Feel like a VIP at the island's top-notch resort: **Hyatt Regency Aruba** (J. E. Irausquin Blvd. #230, Aruba; +011-297 586-1234). Choose from an ocean-view room or one that overlooks the tropical courtyard with sparkling pools. With its own beach for guests, six restaurants and a casino that's hopping till the wee hours, vacationers don't ever need to leave the property, unless it's to buy some hand-rolled Cuban cigars in the shops across the street. Rates run from $335 in low season, and $595 in high season.

▶ Try the grilled lobster for two at Hyatt Regency's Footprints Beach Grill.

CASSANDRA GARRISON/METRO

Eat

Have the hotel arrange a taxi and venture off the beaten path for a more local dining experience. Grab a table on the patio at island favorite **Madame Janette** (Cunuco Abao 37; +011-297-587-0184). Choose from Argentine cuts of beef or a fresh catch from the Caribbean sea. Don't miss the Shrimp "Coco di Rasta" — jumbo coconut shrimp smothered in red curry sauce and served with rice.

Or, dine with your feet in the sand at **Hyatt's Footprints** restaurant (+011-297-586-1234 ext. 37), which offers romantic tables on the beach so you can watch the sunset as you sip local cocktails and enjoy fresh fare like snapper ceviche or grilled lobster for two.

Explore

Though Aruba is just 20 miles long, its diverse geography features stunning views and picturesque scenes. Sandy white beaches turn into rocky cliffs and natural bridges as you venture from end to end. Buckle up for a bumpy ride with a Jeep excursion through **De Palm Tours** (L.G. Smith Blvd. 142; +011-297-582-4400) — be sure to ask for Rocky! Or sip on an Aruba Arriba as a catamaran with **Red Sail Sports** (L.G. Smith Boulevard 17; +011-297-586-1603) takes you to the island's best snorkel spots, where you'll get a close-up of ocean life and a German shipwreck from 1940.

CASSANDRA GARRISON
cassandra.garrison@metro.us

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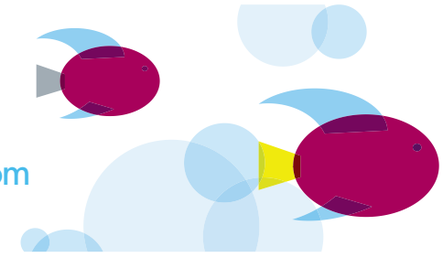

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HYATT REGENCY ARUBA

▶ Unwind with soothing aloe treatments or a hot stone massage at Hyatt Regency's ZoiA Spa.

Relax

Aruba's desert climate makes it a perfect growing location for aloe, and the plant's healing properties are utilized at **Hyatt Regency Aruba's ZoiA Spa** (J.E. Irausquin Blvd. #85; +011-297-586-1234). Give your skin a rest from the hot sun with aloe-based facials, wraps or soothing rituals for your hands and feet. Try a color-themed spirit bath, a tradition used by locals to calm the spirit and relax the mind.

HYATT REGENCY ARUBA

▶ Enjoy numerous restaurants and bars on the Hyatt Regency Aruba's property. Just watch your step for wild iguanas!

Play

Kick back with a drink and sing along to karaoke at **Piet's Pier Bar** (J.E. Irausquin Blvd. #85; +011-297-586-1234 ext. 51). Stay till close and a security guard will be waiting to escort you back to the hotel. Hint: Ask the bartender to sing Shania Twain's "Still the One," but be prepared to join him in the duet.

Senor Frog's (J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 348 A; +011-297-586-8900) gets a bad rep as a tourist trap, and, indeed, there are plenty of drunken moms and college-aged guys on the prowl. But if you can get past the cheesy atmosphere, it's not a bad spot for late-night dancing.

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Traveler tips

- **SHOP:** Corrientes Avenue is the Argentine Broadway and it's a wonderful place to shop for books and music or check out the latest creations from some of Buenos Aires' finest designers.
- **STAY:** Hotel Mansion Dandi Royal is a wonderfully atmospheric 30-room boutique hotel full of art nouveaux decor and saturated with the romantic atmosphere for tango. The hotel even has its own "tango academy." **(www.mansiondandiroyal.com).**
- **DO:** A soccer match at the incredible Boca Stadium is something not to be missed. When the Boca Juniors supporters start to jump, the stadium actually vibrates under your feet. For tickets visit **www.tangol.com.**

Fans from all over the world flock to Buenos Aires to learn Argentina's dramatic dance ◗ Learn the tango or watch the experts at a show or a local dance 'milonga' ◗ Our writer takes his first steps

ALL PHOTOS MARK EVELEIGH

Learn to tango in Buenos Aires

I've been in Buenos Aires for less than an hour. Already I'm sensing the bizarre atmosphere of addiction and romance that's at the heart of the world of tango. "It used to be just Argentines who danced tango," my taxi driver is enthusing. "Now people come from Australia, Canada, Europe ... even Korea and Japan."

Tango attracts particularly dedicated followers and for millions of people, the Argentine capital has become the ultimate place of pilgrimage.

Private tango instruction rather than group classes is considered a must, so I'm partnered with a fellow tango virgin, Turkish TV presenter Asli Pelit, for my first foray into the dance. We take our first tentative baby steps as tangueros on Susana Mirosmik's little terrace as steaks sizzle on the parilla (barbecue), which will be a welcome reward for our efforts.

Mirosmik has been dancing tango for more 20 years and is one of the most well-known faces in the tango scene here: "You must learn to walk before you can dance," she says as she shows us how to move. "A graceful walk is the very basics of the dance."

We move in carefully measured circles around the terrace and begin to grasp the meditative aspect that is the essence of the tango experience.

Some come to Buenos Aires to watch spectacular tango exhibitions or to spend a fortune on months of private lessons. Some dedicated pilgrims come simply to immerse themselves in the serenity of the milongas. These are traditional local dances where the purest tango can be found, and Mirosmik guides us to a milonga at La Nacional. The men affect the stance of gentleman matadors and the women demure debutantes. On the dance floor, any exuberant exhibitionism is frowned upon. Poise and reserve are the keys to acceptance at a traditional milonga.

I'm aware that elegance and matador poise are yet to establish a permanent place in my psyche but, under Mirosmik's guidance, I'm at least able to appreciate the understated subtleties of milonga footwork.

I might only be on my first steps to tango expertise, but it feels good to be able to say that I have at least learned to really walk in Buenos Aires.

MARK EVELEIGH
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Takes three to tango

Learn: Susana Mirosmik is arguably the best contact to set up tango lessons in Buenos Aires. Her company, Su Tours, can also arrange everything from tango instruction to accommodation and weeklong tours of upcountry Argentina. **(www.sutours.blogspot.com)**

Parties: Some of the most recommended milongas — traditional local tango dances — are at La Nacional, El Arranque and La Ideal. Milongas cost around $5 admission and many include an hour of tuition at the beginning. **(www.buenosairesmilongas.com)**

Shows: The most famous and spectacular tango shows can be seen at Rojo Tango (from $220, **www.rojotango.com**), La Ventana Tango (from $90, **www.tangotix.com**) and La Esquina Carlos Gardel **(www.esquinacarlosgardel.com.ar)**.

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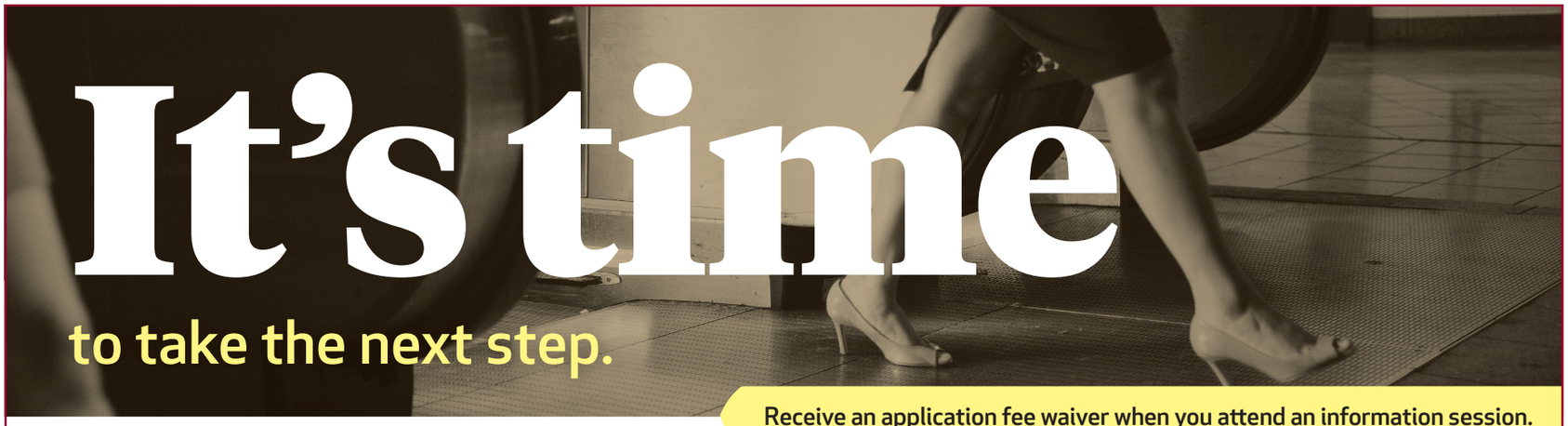

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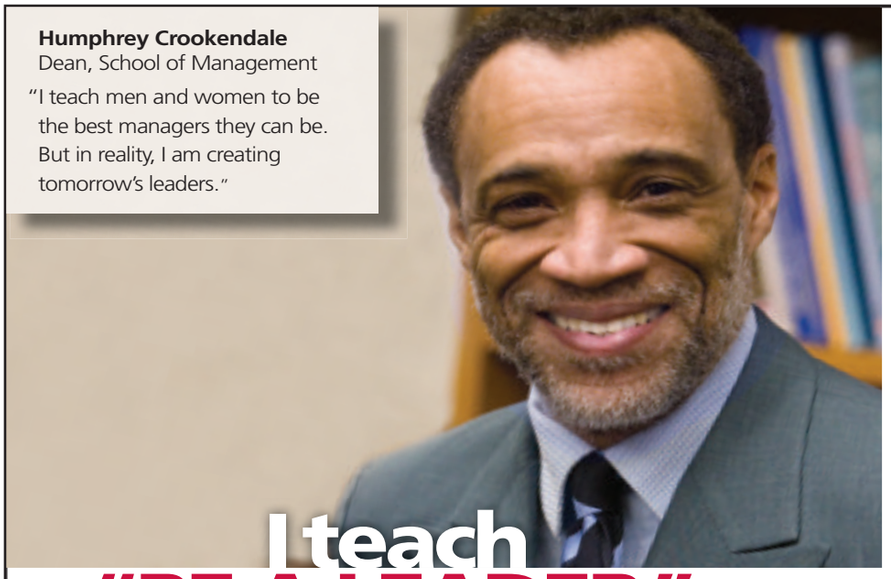

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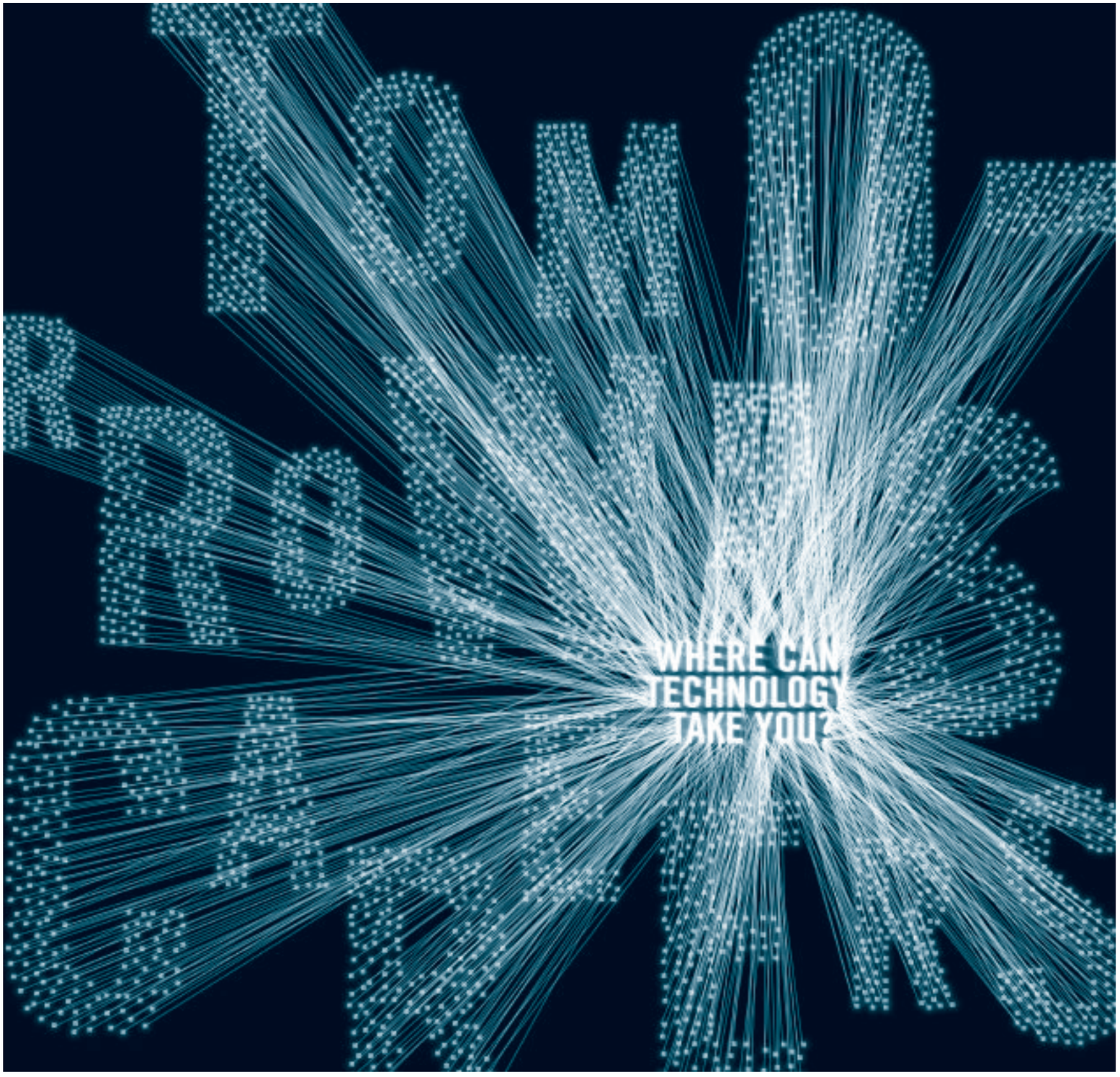

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Syracuse settles on exit fee with Big East

It's officially time to say goodbye to the Orange in the Big Apple.

Original Big East member Syracuse, always so vocally supported in the Big East tournament at Madison Square Garden, reached a buyout agreement with the conference yesterday. They will exit after the 2012-13 athletic season. The conference originally said they would make Syracuse serve the 27-month exit period outlined in conference bylaws. Instead, $7.5 million changed that.

$2.5M Syracuse would have paid just $2.5 million as an exit fee had they waited the 27 months outlined.

"Both sides thought the deal was truly reasonable, and it was done in a most collegial way," Syracuse athletic director Daryl Gross said. "We're excited that we were able to negotiate and that sophisticated minds came into play and we were able to get it done."

Syracuse was one of seven founding members of the Big East in 1979. They won five conference tournament championships in men's basketball and at least a share of four titles in football. ● MARK OSBORNE

In the news

Rice gets paid
Former Rutgers star and current Raven Ray Rice signed a much-desired extension yesterday right before the deadline.

Rice inked a five-year, $40-million contract just before 4 p.m. Had he not reached an agreement he would have played the season under the franchise tag.

Fellow running back Matt Forte of the Bears also signed a deal before the deadline. His was worth four years and about $32 million.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sabathia

Sabathia beyond ready after DL stint

CC Sabathia is among the more durable pitchers in the game and his first DL stint as a Yankee is about to end after missing time with a strained left groin.

So when he spoke for roughly three-and-a-half minutes at his corner locker yesterday, he spoke like a man antsy to get going tonight against the Blue Jays.

"It sucks [being on the disabled list]," Sabathia said. "You feel like you're not contributing to the team. But it's part of the game and I'm healthy now and ready to go out [tonight]. ... I'm going to throw until they tell me to stop. My arms feels good." ● METRO/LF

No help necessary

◐ GM Cashman talks Yankees' trade prospects ahead of July 31 deadline ◐ Don't get your hopes up ◐ Team doesn't appear to be targeting stars

The non-waiver trade deadline occurs in a little over two weeks, and though general manager Brian Cashman does not feel he needs to a make a significant deal to help the roster that has the best record in the game, he offered a grim outlook at the current trade market.

"The price tag sucks, to be honest," Cashman said Sunday as the Yankees finished up their weekend series with the Angels.

The high price tag is what prevented Cashman from making a major move last year when the Rockies' Ubaldo Jimenez was among the centerpieces of the deadline. He eventually went to the Indians.

"I'm not very optimistic that we'll be needing to be active, or should be active, given the price tag associated with the players and what we need to do as we move forward to retain these assets that compel us to get the payroll down," Cashman said. "So I'm very skeptical on a lot of it.

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Brian Cashman didn't sound like the type of guy looking to make a big splash at the trade deadline.

"That does not mean I'm saying we're going to nothing, but since you guys [the media] are really the conduits to our fan base that you are, it's important for me to communicate that I'm not really sure what's going to happen — if anything — unless further injuries hit, which I hope they don't."

Though reports have linked the Yankees to being among the ten teams interested in Cubs right-hander Ryan Dempster, Cashman's tone indicated that at the present time the only moves could be waiver-wire transactions.

"I'm sure [talent is available], but at the costs associated with acquiring those, that's what's going to turn me off."
BRIAN CASHMAN, ON TRADES

"I think we have a very strong roster," Cashman said. "I think we have answers. I really like what we have. Not as an insult to Brett Gardner, but we haven't missed him. He's a huge asset that we can use but have we missed him? No. Have we missed Joba [Chamberlain]? No. All of these guys, right now, they can only make us better and give us more choices."

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Lin plays waiting game

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You'll have to excuse Knicks fans if they've given up on trying to figure out if no news is good news or not.

The good news for Jeremy Lin is that he will finally find out by 11:59 p.m. tonight whether he will be a member of the Knicks or Rockets next season.

Reports on the ever-changing decision-making by owner James Dolan and general manager Glen Grunwald still lean toward the team passing on matching Lin's three-year, $25-million offer sheet from Houston. The general consensus is that the team does not want to be stuck with the $14.8 million final year of the deal in the same season the luxury tax increases exponentially.

But aside from numbers on the contract, the team has a numbers game in the backcourt if they bring back Lin. Jason Kidd and Raymond Felton will get significant time and the team also signed 35-year-old Spanish League veteran Pablo Prigioni last week.

Count former teammate Jared Jeffries as one player shocked at the potential of Lin leaving New York.

"I thought they would never let him go," Jeffries told ESPN New York.

Jeffries was sent to Portland as part of the Felton deal, made official yesterday.

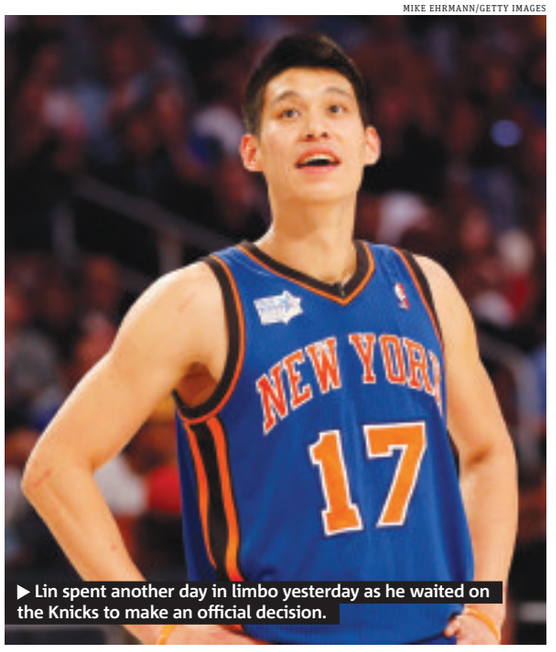
MARK OSBORNE
mark.osborne@metro.us

Getting old

The Nets signed Jerry Stackhouse to a one-year deal at the veteran's minimum yesterday as had been rumored.

Stackhouse, 37, averaged 3.6 points per game in 2011-12.

MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Lin spent another day in limbo yesterday as he waited on the Knicks to make an official decision.

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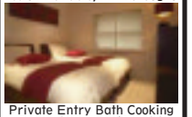
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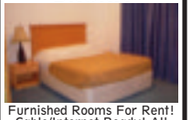
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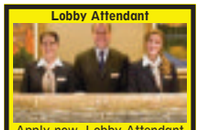
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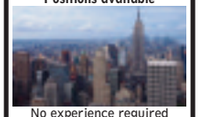

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Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number Pending for Liquor, Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at: 40-15 Warren Street, Elmhurst, NY 11373 for on-premise consumption. Sabor Latino Lounge, Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number Pending for Liquor, Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at: 4780 Sunrise Highway, Bohemia, NY 11716 for on-premise consumption. Plate Restaurant, Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, serial # 1263314, for Liquor, Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 136-59 37th Ave., Entire Second Floor, Flushing, NY 11354 for on-premise consumption. 718 Billiards & KTV Inc d/b/a 718 Lounge.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, serial # 1263366, for Restaurant Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1391 St. Nicholas Ave., NY, NY 10033 for on-premise consumption. Kings Flavor Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1264557 for a "Restaurant Wine" has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer and Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at 1567 2nd Ave, New York, NY for on-premises consumption. Amura Japanese Restaurant Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1264228 for a "Restaurant Wine" has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer and Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at 41-04 163rd St, Flushing, NY for on-premises consumption. Arirang USA Inc.

Notice of Formation of URL Collection LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/14/ 2012. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o The LLC, 1189 Broadway, New York, NY 10001 which is also the principal business location. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number Pending for Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at: 140 Fulton Street, New York, NY 10038 for on-premise consumption. 140 Fulton Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number Pending for Liquor, Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at: 235 West 35th Street, New York, NY 10001 for on-premise consumption. Crudo, Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number Pending for Liquor, Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at: 35-16 Farrington Street, Flushing, NY 11354 for on-premise consumption. HWL Enterprise Corp.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1264109 for a "Restaurant Wine" has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer and Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at 35-38 Union St, Flushing, NY for on-premises consumption. Da Fa Restaurant Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1264414 for an "On-Premises" has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine and Liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at 60-15 Main St, Flushing, NY for on-premises consumption. Lake Pavilion Inc.

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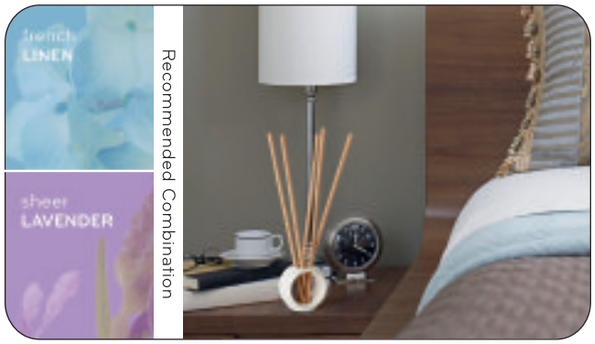

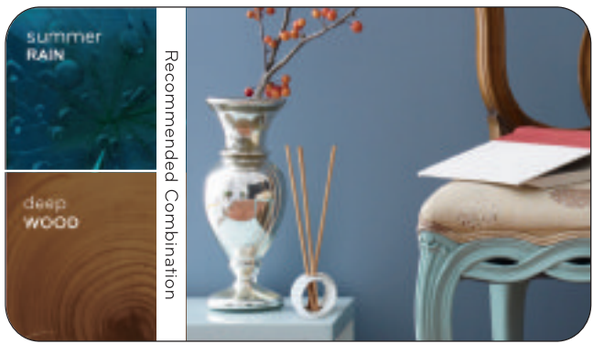

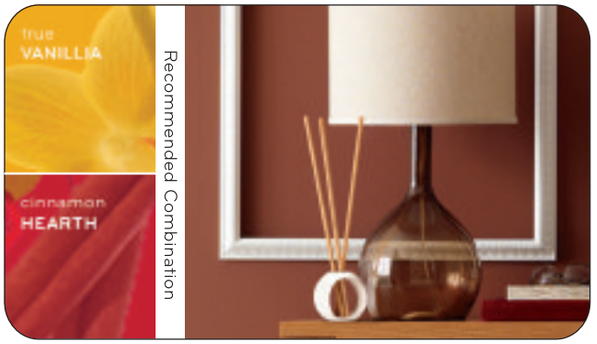

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